

(1) A singer receives \$50 for a song on a 15-minute program (no rehearsal time is involved). Obviously the requirement will be met since the employee would earn \$280 at this rate of pay in far less than 40 hours.

(2) An artist is paid \$150 for a picture. Upon completion of the assignment, it is determined that the artist worked 20 hours. Since earnings at this rate would yield the artist \$300 if 40 hours were worked, the requirement is met.

(3) An illustrator is assigned the illustration of a pamphlet at a fee of \$180. When the job is completed, it is determined that the employee worked 60 hours. If the employee worked 40 hours at this rate, the employee would have earned only \$120. The fee payment of \$180 for work which required 60 hours to complete therefore does not meet the requirement of payment at a rate of \$280 per week and the employee must be considered nonexempt. It follows that if in the performance of this assignment the illustrator worked in excess of 40 hours in any week, overtime rates must be paid. Whether or not the employee worked in excess of 40 hours in any week, records for such an employee would have to be kept in accordance with the regulations covering records for nonexempt employees (part 516 of this chapter).

**§ 541.314 Exception for physicians, lawyers, and teachers.**

(a) A holder of a valid license or certificate permitting the practice of law or medicine or any of their branches, who is actually engaged in practicing the profession, or a holder of the requisite academic degree for the general practice of medicine who is engaged in an internship or resident program pursuant to the practice of his profession, or an employee employed and engaged as a teacher in the activity of imparting knowledge, is excepted from the salary or fee requirement. This exception applies only to the traditional professions of law, medicine, and teaching and not to employees in related professions which merely serve these professions.

(b) In the case of medicine:

(1) The exception applies to physicians and other practitioners licensed and practicing in the field of medical science and healing or any of the medical specialties practiced by physicians or practitioners. The term *physicians* means medical doctors including general practitioners and specialists, and osteopathic physicians (doctors of osteopathy). Other practitioners in the field of medical science and healing

may include podiatrists (sometimes called chiropodists), dentists (doctors of dental medicine), optometrists (doctors of optometry or bachelors of science in optometry).

(2) Physicians and other practitioners included in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, whether or not licensed to practice prior to commencement of an internship or resident program, are excepted from the salary or fee requirement during their internship or resident program, where such a training program is entered upon after the earning of the appropriate degree required for the general practice of their profession.

(c) In the case of medical occupations, the exception from the salary or fee requirement does not apply to pharmacists, nurses, therapists, technologists, sanitarians, dietitians, social workers, psychologists, psychometrists, or other professions which service the medical profession.

**§ 541.315 Special proviso for high salaried professional employees.**

(a) Except as otherwise noted in paragraph (b) of this section, the definition of "professional" contains a special proviso for employees who are compensated on a salary or fee basis at a rate of at least \$250 per week exclusive of board, lodging, or other facilities. Under this proviso, the requirements for exemption in § 541.3 (a) through (e) will be deemed to be met by an employee who receives the higher salary or fees and whose primary duty consists of the performance of work requiring knowledge of an advanced type in a field of science or learning, or work as a teacher in the activity of imparting knowledge, which includes work requiring the consistent exercise of discretion and judgment, or consists of the performance of work requiring invention, imagination, or talent in a recognized field of artistic endeavor. Thus, the exemption will apply to highly paid employees employed either in one of the "learned" professions or in an "artistic" profession and doing primarily professional work. If an employee qualifies for exemption under this proviso, it is not necessary to test the employee's qualifications in detail under § 541.3 (a) through (e).